

Attorney Docket No.: 01CON218P-CIP  
Application Serial No.: 10/631,947

**List of Claims:**

**Claim 1 (Currently Amended):** A communication method for use by a first gateway device to enable communication between a first modem and a second modem, said first gateway device being capable of communicating with said first modem over a first communication line, said first gateway device being capable of communicating with a second gateway device over a packet network, said second gateway device being capable of communicating with said second modem over a second communication line, said method comprising ~~the steps of:~~

receiving a call request for said first modem from said second gateway device over said packet network;

placing a call to said first modem over said first communication line in response to said receiving step;

detecting an answer tone transmitted from said first modem over said first communication line in response to said placing step;

transmitting a first message indicative of said answer tone to said second gateway device over said packet network;

detecting a phase reversal in said answer tone; and

transmitting a second message indicative of said phase reversal to said second gateway device over said packet network.

**Claim 2 (Cancelled)**

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**Claim 3 (Currently Amended):** The method of claim 1, wherein said first message is indicative of an amplitude-modulated answer tone ~~with phase reversal~~.

**Claims 4-5 (Cancelled)**

**Claim 6 (Currently Amended):** The method of claim 1, wherein said second gateway device includes an echo canceller, and the method further comprises ~~the step of~~ disabling said echo canceller in response to receiving said message indicative of said phase reversal from said first gateway device.

**Claim 7 (Currently Amended):** A first gateway device configured to enable communication between a first modem and a second modem, said first gateway device being capable of communicating with said first modem over a first communication line, said first gateway device being capable of communicating with a second gateway device over a packet network, said second gateway device being capable of communicating with said second modem over a second communication line, said first gateway device comprising:

a receiver configured to receive a call request for said first modem from said second gateway device over said packet network;

a call module configured to place a call to said first modem over said first communication line in response to said receiver receiving said call request;

an answer tone detector configured to detect an answer tone transmitted from said first modem over said first communication line in response to said call;

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a transmitter configured to transmit a first message indicative of said answer tone to said second gateway device over said packet network;

a phase reversal detector configured to detect a phase reversal in said answer tone; and  
said [[a]] transmitter further configured to transmit a second message indicative of said phase reversal to said second gateway device over said packet network.

**Claim 8 (Cancelled)**

**Claim 9 (Currently Amended):** The first gateway device of claim 7, wherein said first message is indicative of an amplitude-modulated answer tone ~~with phase reversal~~.

**Claims 10-11 (Cancelled)**

**Claim 12 (Original):** The first gateway device of claim 7, wherein said second gateway device includes an echo canceller, and said second gateway device disables said echo canceller in response to receiving said message indicative of said phase reversal from said first gateway device.

**Claim 13 (Currently Amended):** A communication method for use by a first gateway device to enable communication between a first modem and a second modem, said first gateway device being capable of communicating with said first modem over a first communication line, said first gateway device being capable of communicating with a second gateway device over a

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packet network, said second gateway device being capable of communicating with said second modem over a second communication line, said method comprising ~~the steps of~~:

receiving a call from said first modem over said first communication line for said second modem from;

placing a call request to said second gateway device over said packet network in response to said receiving step;

receiving a first message indicative of an answer tone from said second gateway device over said packet network in response to said placing;

receiving a second message indicative of said phase reversal from said second gateway device over said packet network in response to said placing step; and

disabling an echo canceller of said first gateway device in response to said ~~step of~~ receiving said second message indicative of said phase reversal.

**Claim 14 (Cancelled)**

**Claim 15 (Currently Amended):** The method of claim 13, wherein said first message is indicative of an amplitude-modulated answer tone ~~with phase reversal~~.

**Claims 16-17 (Cancelled)**

**Claim 18 (Currently Amended):** A first gateway device configured to enable communication between a first modem and a second modem, said first gateway device being capable of communicating with said first modem over a first communication line, said first

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gateway device being capable of communicating with a second gateway device over a packet network, said second gateway device being capable of communicating with said second modem over a second communication line, said first gateway device comprising:

a modem receiver configured to receive a call from said first modem over said first communication line for said second modem from;

a call module configured to place a call request to said second gateway device over said packet network in response to said call;

a network receiver configured to receive a first message indicative of an answer tone from said second gateway device over said packet network in response to said call request;

said [[a]] network receiver further configured to receive a second message indicative of said phase reversal from said second gateway device over said packet network in response to said call request; and

an echo canceller, wherein said first gateway device disables said echo canceller in response to said message indicative of said phase reversal.

**Claim 19 (Cancelled)**

**Claim 20 (Currently Amended):** The first gateway device of claim 18, wherein said first message is indicative of an amplitude-modulated answer tone ~~with phase reversal~~.

**Claims 21-22 (Cancelled)**